

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS STATE 163346

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, TPHY, YO

SUBJECT: LORANDITE SAMPLE FOR ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

REF: SIEVERING-MILLS LETTER OF JUNE 12, 1975

FOR SCIATT

1. REFLETTER AND ITS ATTACHMENTS EXPLAIN INTEREST OF ARGONNE SCIENTISTS TO OBTAIN SMALL SUPPLY OF LORANDITE (1 TO 5 KGS) TO BE USED IN AN IMPORTANT EXPERIMENT ON DETECTION OF NEUTRINOS FROM THE SUN. LORANDITE IS A RARE THALLIUM MINERAL, DEPOSITS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN FOUND IN THE ALLCHAR MINE LOCATED NEAR KAVADARCI IN SOUTHERN MACEDONIA.

2. MILOS RAJACIC, YUGOSLAV SCIENTIFIC COUNSELOR, VISITED THE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT ON RESULTS OF HIS INQUIRIES IN YUGOSLAVIA REGARDING A RESPONSE TO ERDA'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING THE MINERAL. HE STATED THAT THE MACEDONIAN GOVERNMENT AGREES IN PRINCIPLE TO COOPERATE WITH ERDA AND IS PREPARED TO RECEIVE AN AMERICAN DELEGATION TO DISCUSS THE MATTER. HE POINTED OUT THAT

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A "HIGH LEVEL" OF THE MACEDONIAN GOVERNMENT HAD CONSIDERED

THIS REQUEST. THE MINE IS REPORTEDLY NOT IN OPERATION AT

THE PRESENT TIME, BUT "CONDITIONS EXIST" TO ACTIVATE IT.
IT MAY ALSO BE POSSIBLE TO CONDUCT EXPLORATIONS UP TO
300 METERS, AFTER SUFFICIENT RESEARCH HAS BEEN DONE.

3. RAJACIC REQUESTED THAT ERDA PROVIDE WITHIN THE NEXT
TWO WEEKS THE NAMES OF DELEGATION MEMBERS AND A PROPOSED
TIME FRAME FOR THE VISIT. ERDA WILL OBTAIN THIS
INFORMATION FROM ARGONNE. AT THE PRESENT TIME, WE
SURMISE THAT THE DELEGATION WOULD BE COMPOSED OF TWO OR
THREE PEOPLE AND WOULD VISIT SOMETIME IN EARLY
SEPTEMBER, SINCE DR. MELVIN FREEDMAN, ARGONNE, WILL BE
IN EUROPE ON OTHER BUSINESS AT THAT TIME. INGERSOLL

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